

Mr. William E. Simon, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Constitution Avenue, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Reference: FCC Docket no. 99-339

Mr. Simon,
Approximately 100 blind and the corner and this group of blind and visually impaired of Santa
Rosa, California, Sonoma County, have been waiting since November of 2000 for the
provision of video to videoc programming. Now at the 11th hour, the broadcasters, tv, and
cable, wish to deny us? This is deplorable. Please do not let this happen.
This is a very important issue to the entire blind community, but especially those who are
homebound or in nursing homes.
We are already battles to fight on a daily basis with transportation, pedestrian safety,
voting, health issues. Don't add this to our list
WE NEED DESCRIPTIVE VIDEO SERVICES!!

Sincerely,

William E. Simon, OTR

Mr. William J. Dalton, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
433 Madison Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: FCC 99-334 Docket no. 99-339

Mr. Dalton,
Approximately 100 blind and visually impaired of Santa
Rosa, Sonoma County, have been waiting since November of 2000 for the
provision of closed captioning to videotape programming. Now at the 11th hour, the broadcasters, tv, and
cable companies wish to deny us? This is deplorable. Please do not let this happen.
This is a significant issue to the entire blind community, but especially those who are
homebound and in nursing homes.
We are already in battles to fight on a daily basis with transportation, pedestrian safety,
voting, and health issues. Don't add this to our list
WE NEED CLOSED CAPTIONING VIDEO SERVICES!!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "LOR" followed by a stylized flourish.

Mr. Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445
Washington, D.C.

Reference: No. 99-339

Mr. Secretary,
April 11, 2000
Rosa
prom
cable
This
hour
We
votin
WE
corner and this group of blind and visually impaired of Santa
County, have been waiting since November of 2000 for the
top programming. Now at the 11th hour, the broadcasters, tv, and
deny us? This is deplorable. Please do not let this happen.
This
issue to the entire blind community, but especially those who are
ing homes.
We
to fight on a daily basis with transportation, pedestrian safety,
est. Don't add this to our list
WE
SCRIPTIVE VIDEO SERVICES!!

Since

sp Bbe

Mr. [redacted] Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
44
Washington, D.C. 20544

Re: [redacted] Petition no. 99-339

Mr. [redacted]
Appl. [redacted] the corner and this group of blind and visually impaired of Santa
Rosa, [redacted] San County, have been waiting since November of 2000 for the
provision of [redacted] videop programming. Now at the 11th hour, the broadcasters, tv, and
cable [redacted] to deny us? This is deplorable. Please do not let this happen.
This is a [redacted] issue to the entire blind community, but especially those who are
homeless and living in homes.
We [redacted] to fight on a daily basis with transportation, pedestrian safety,
voting [redacted] issues. Don't add this to our list
WE NEED DESCRIPTIVE VIDEO SERVICES!!

Sincerely,

 Louie

Mr. [redacted] Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445
Washington, DC 2054

Re: [redacted] Request no. 99-339

Mr. [redacted]
April [redacted] the corner and this group of blind and visually impaired of Santa
Rosa [redacted] County, have been waiting since November of 2000 for the
provision of [redacted] videop programming. Now at the 11th hour, the broadcasters, tv, and
cable [redacted] to deny us? This is deplorable. Please do not let this happen.
This [redacted] a issue to the entire blind community, but especially those who are
home [redacted] nursing homes.
We [redacted] battles to fight on a daily basis with transportation, pedestrian safety,
voting [redacted] issues. Don't add this to our list
WE NEED DESCRIPTIVE VIDEO SERVICES!!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ray M. [unclear]", slanted upwards from left to right.

Mr. [redacted] Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445
Washington, DC 20554

Re: [redacted] Petition no. 99-539

Mr. [redacted]
Appl [redacted] the corner and this group of blind and visually impaired of Santa
Rosa [redacted] Santa County, have been waiting since November of 2000 for the
pro [redacted] videop programming. Now at the 11th hour, the broadcasters.tv, and
cal [redacted] to deny us? This is deplorable. Please do not let this happen.
Th [redacted] issue to the entire blind community, but especially those who are
ho [redacted] nursing homes.
We [redacted] tles to fight on a daily basis with transportation, pedestrian safety,
vo [redacted] issues. Don't add this to our list
We [redacted] DESCRIPTIVE VIDEO SERVICES!!

Sincerely,



Mr. [redacted] Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445
Washington, D.C. 20544

Re: [redacted] letter no. 99-339

Mr. [redacted]
April [redacted] in the corner and this group of blind and visually impaired of Santa
Rosa [redacted] in Santa Rosa County, have been waiting since November of 2000 for the
proposed [redacted] videop programming. Now at the 11th hour, the broadcasters, tv, and
cable [redacted] to deny us? This is deplorable. Please do not let this happen.
This [redacted] is a issue to the entire blind community, but especially those who are
homeless [redacted] nursing homes.
We [redacted] to fight on a daily basis with transportation, pedestrian safety,
voice [redacted] issues. Don't add this to our list
WE [redacted] DESCRIPTIVE VIDEO SERVICES!!

Sincerely,





Mr. [redacted] Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
44
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: [redacted] Petition no. 99-339

Mr. [redacted]
April 11, 2001
The corner and this group of blind and visually impaired of Santa
Rosa County, have been waiting since November of 2000 for the
production of video programming. Now at the 11th hour, the broadcasters, tv, and
cable, are to deny us? This is deplorable. Please do not let this happen.
This is an issue to the entire blind community, but especially those who are
homeless, nursing homes.
We are tired of battles to fight on a daily basis with transportation, pedestrian safety,
voice issues. Don't add this to our list
WE WANT DESCRIPTIVE VIDEO SERVICES!!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "ALB" followed by a long horizontal stroke.

Mr. [redacted] Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
44
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: [redacted] Petition no. 99-339

Mr. [redacted]
April 11, 2001
At the corner and this group of blind and visually impaired of Santa
Rosa, California, Santa Clara County, have been waiting since November of 2000 for the
provision of video programming. Now at the 11th hour, the broadcasters, tv, and
cable, are going to deny us? This is deplorable. Please do not let this happen.
This is a great issue to the entire blind community, but especially those who are
homebound, nursing homes.
We have many battles to fight on a daily basis with transportation, pedestrian safety,
voting issues. Don't add this to our list
WE WANT DESCRIPTIVE VIDEO SERVICES!!

Sincerely,

[redacted]
[redacted] **LAM**

Mr. [redacted] Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
44
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: [redacted] Docket no. 99-339

Mr. [redacted]
Approximately 100 in the corner and this group of blind and visually impaired of Santa
Rosa, California, Santa Clara County, have been waiting since November of 2000 for the
provision of [redacted] videop programming. Now at the 11th hour, the broadcasters, tv, and
cable [redacted] to deny us? This is deplorable. Please do not let this happen.
This is a significant issue to the entire blind community, but especially those who are
homeless, in nursing homes.
We [redacted] battles to fight on a daily basis with transportation, pedestrian safety,
voice [redacted] issues. Don't add this to our list
WE NEED DESCRIPTIVE VIDEO SERVICES!!

Sincerely,

William Thompson

Mr. [redacted] Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
44
Washington, D.C. 20554

Reference: Ticket no. 99-339

Mr. [redacted]
April [redacted] the corner and this group of blind and visually impaired of Santa
Rosa [redacted] Santa County, have been waiting since November of 2000 for the
promise of [redacted] videop programming. Now at the 11th hour, the broadcasters, tv, and
cable [redacted] to deny us? This is deplorable. Please do not let this happen.
This [redacted] issue to the entire blind community, but especially those who are
homebound and nursing homes.
We [redacted] battles to fight on a daily basis with transportation, pedestrian safety,
voting [redacted] issues. Don't add this to our list
WE [redacted] DESCRIPTIVE VIDEO SERVICES!!

Sincerely,

Mr. [redacted] Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
44
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: [redacted] Ticket no. 99-339

Mr. [redacted]
April 11, 2001
At the corner and this group of blind and visually impaired of Santa
Rosa, California County, have been waiting since November of 2000 for the
promise of video programming. Now at the 11th hour, the broadcasters, tv, and
cable companies wish to deny us? This is deplorable. Please do not let this happen.
This is a significant issue to the entire blind community, but especially those who are
housebound or in nursing homes.
We are already battling to fight on a daily basis with transportation, pedestrian safety,
voting issues, etc. Don't add this to our list
WE WANT DESCRIPTIVE VIDEO SERVICES!!

Since [redacted]

A. Hitting

Mr. [redacted] Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
44.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Reference: C. Docket no. 99-339

Mr. [redacted]
April 11, 2000. At the corner and this group of blind and visually impaired of Santa
Rosa, California County, have been waiting since November of 2000 for the
promise of video programming. Now at the 11th hour, the broadcasters, tv, and
cable, wish to deny us? This is deplorable. Please do not let this happen.
This is a constant issue to the entire blind community, but especially those who are
housebound or in nursing homes.
We have many battles to fight on a daily basis with transportation, pedestrian safety,
voting, and many issues. Don't add this to our list
WE NEED DESCRIPTIVE VIDEO SERVICES!!

Sincerely,



Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Fred Carter" <fcarter@linc.org>
To: <Info@ACB.org>
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2002 10:12 AM
Subject: "I support video description"

I need the programming on television to be described so that I can know what is going on on the screen. When I hear my sighted friends talking about something they have seen on TV and are describing something, I have to be quiet because I can not add anything to the conversation, due to not knowing what things on the screen look like.

Fred

3/11/02

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Fred Carter" <fcarter@linc.org>
To: <Info@ACB.org>
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2002 11:13 AM
Attach: Video Description letter.doc
Subject: I support video description

Attached is a letter that I sent to the secretary of the FCC. I hope it is not too late. I just found out about this today from the BONS Newsletter. I have also sent a hard copy of the letter to Charles Crawford, Executive Director.

Fred

3/11/02

4601 Fifth Ave.
Apt. 421
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

March 9, 2002

Secretary
Federal Communications Commission

Reference MM Docket no. 99-339.

Dear Sir:

I am writing to urge you to resist the recent efforts of the National Association of Broadcasters, The Motion Picture Association, and the National Cable Telecommunications Association to stop the implementation of legislation requiring descriptive video services for visually impaired television and motion picture watchers.

I am a person who is legally blind with only a tiny percentage of vision remaining in one eye. Until the inception of descriptive video on PBS programs such as Nova and National Geographic Specials, I had found it extremely difficult to follow and get the full benefit from television programs with high visual content. Therefore, I was limited to watching/listening to news and interview programs. I was missing much of what television had to offer. Now I have found a wonderful new world of learning and enjoyment from the few programs which include descriptive video.

Likewise, I was never really able to enjoy the visual aspect of movies until I was able to rent the few motion pictures with descriptive video. It would be wonderful to have the same DVS available in commercial movie theaters!

I want more descriptive video, not less! I believe that as an American citizen with a severe visual impairment, I am entitled to the same access to television programs and motion pictures that the general public has. With closed captioning, the deaf community gained the equal access to television programming. I believe that the visually impaired community has a right to similar access.

I urge you to resist efforts to stop the implementation of descriptive video services.

Sincerely yours,

Holly V. Dick

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "Holly Dick" <hpdick@telerama.com>
To: <Info@ACB.org>
Sent: Saturday, March 09, 2002 6:14 PM
Attach: dvs support letter 030902.doc
Subject: Support descriptive video

Please see attached letter of support

3/11/02

Barbara Vodapive

From: "Jerry Boucher" <grboucher@worldnet.att.net>
To: <info@acb.org>
Sent: Saturday, March 09, 2002 12:22 AM
Subject: DVS!

My info as requested, thanks.

Bouchers Realty

65 Hildale Avenue

Haverhill, MA 01832-3829

Tel. 978-521-3982

e-mail grboucher@worldnet.att.net

02/27/02

Federal Communications Commission

445 12th St SW

Washington, DC 20554.

To: Mr. William Caton, Secretary

Re: Discriminatory action taken against Video Description Television/Video.

Dear Mr. Caton,

Hello to you and yours. Nevertheless, I am writing to you pertaining to support Video Descriptive TV/Video for the blind and visually impaired, hereto:

However, sighted people that can see the non-verbal actions and expressions, on the television screen have a profound and an enormous advantage when it pertains to the visual aspect of looking at the screen. Whereas, as a blind person, since I was wounded in combat when I was twenty (20) years old, which was about thirty (35) five years ago, I did not realize how much people can really miss from not seeing what is going on. Whereas, this video system, has opened up

3/11/02

a brand new world for me and others, who cannot see some of the most beautiful things that we will never see again, without knowing anything about it. Whereas, the next thing to seeing these things is the wonderful world of Descriptive Video, which explains everything explicitly to us who cannot see these special effects.

Therefore, Mr. Caton, please have a heart and let us live again, with this astonishing, profound and superb technology. Hereon, I hope you will take this letter (message) very seriously and do not let them take these extra eyes away from us! I thank you very much for your time.

Sincerely,

Gerard R. Boucher, BKR. PL. MRC.

Cc. Jennifer Phillips, BVA, Charles Crawford Executive Director, American Council of the Blind, 1155 15th Street NW suite 1004, Washington, DC 20005.

ENC. "I support video description" MM Docket No. 99-339.

Barbara Vodapive

From: "Fred Carter" <fcarter@linc.org>
To: <Info@ACB.org>
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2002 10:12 AM
Subject: "I support video description"

I need the programming on television to be described so that I can know what is going on on the screen. When I hear my sighted friends talking about something they have seen on TV and are describing something, I have to be quiet because I can not add anything to the conversation, due to not knowing what things on the screen look like.

Fred

Barbara Vodapivc

From: <DoeDoe69@aol.com>
To: <Info@acb.org>
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2002 7:06 PM
Subject: I Support Video Description

February 26, 2002

Mr. William Caton, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 15th Street, SW
Washington, DC 29554

Reference MM Docket no. 99-339.

Dear Mr. Caton:

I am writing to you in support of Descriptive Video Services and vehemently object to the request of the movie, cable, and broadcast industry to stay the implementation of DVS on April 1, 2002.

It is a great shame to the entertainment industry to deny the blind and visually impaired community this right, given that the industry prides itself as being socially responsible to the public. Blind and visually impaired people all over the country have waited since the issuance of the order to finally have access to television programming. By taking that away from them, the networks send the message that they are apathetic to the needs of the blind, thus further contributing to decades of discrimination towards this community.

I wholeheartedly support the FCC's DVS order, and hope that you will not back down and allow the entertainment industry to manipulate the legal system in its favor once again.

Sincerely,

Doreen Thorson

3/11/02

Barbara Vodapive

From: "Joseph Perry" <jcpperry@altoona.com>
To: <info@acb.org>
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2002 6:10 PM
Subject: I support video description.

515 S. Market Street
Martinsburg, PA 16662

Mr. William Katon
Secretary, FCC
Washington, DC

I am writing in reference to 99 docket number 339 having to do with descriptive video. I think it's appalling that the broadcast, cable and motion picture industries filed a lawsuit against your ruling for them to provide descriptive video to make their programming more accessible to the blind and visually impaired. It is even more shameful for them to file an appeal to the office of the FCC to stay your ruling only a month before its implementation. I enjoy description on television and movies and consider it an injustice to have your ruling postponed for any reason. It is also my hope that their lawsuit will be overturned by the courts. Please do not honor their appeal.

Thank you,

Joseph Perry

3/11/02

Barbara Vodapivc

From: "David G. Armijo" <kelly@cybermesa.com>
To: <info@acb.org>
Sent: Saturday, March 09, 2002 11:08 PM
Subject: I support video discription

Dear Charlie,

All of us at the American Council of the Blind of NM are profoundly disappointed with the attack by the movie industry on descriptive video. We whole-heartedly believe that as equal participants in the main stream of our great society, an ignominious effort is being made to deprive us of a very vital access to a full life, by depriving us of video description.

We stand united in our determination to support Fcc Secretary in implimenting DVS in April as planned.

Keep in mind that we stand in full support of your efforts in this regard.

Sincerely,

David G. Armijo, President, ACBNMI

3/11/02

Barbara Vodapive

From: "Sherry Brockway" <suade@mhtc.net>
To: <Info@acb.org>
Sent: Saturday, March 09, 2002 5:59 PM
Subject: I support discriptive vidio

Hello, I have only been blind for eight years and really miss being able to watch movies alone. Movies make no sense at all in less someone is telling you what iss going on. So please if you could make movie description possible it would be wonderful. Thank-you for anything you can do.

Sincerely

Sherry Brockway

Barbara Vodapive

From: "Norma J Haney" <njhaney@frontiernet.net>
To: <info@acb.org>
Sent: Saturday, March 09, 2002 3:06 PM
Subject: I SUPPORT DESCRIPTIVE VIDEO

To ACB And Those Involved,

I definitely support Descriptive Video on TV programs and movies. It is a wonderful and inclusive feeling, to know what is happening on the screen at the same moment as sighted friends and family.

With the use of Descriptive Video, there's no need for others to be worrying about how to describe an action scene to me, and I don't have to feel foolish and embarrassed because I can't follow what is happening, usually at crucial moments in the plot.

It would mean a great deal to so many
of us to have this additional technique for our personal use at home,
out with friends, etc. I want to see it put in to place, very very soon.

Thank you for your attention to my Email. I look forward to great results and the use of Descriptive Video for TV and movies, and any other place that is appropriate!!

Very Sincerely,

Norma Jean Haney, CSW